

# ADOPTED CAM VALE PARISH PLAN REVIEW

## *Longburton, Holnest, Lillington & Leweston*



'CAM VALE LOOKS FORWARD 2010-2016'

# **CAM VALE FINDINGS AND ACTION PLAN FOR 2010-2016**

***As unanimously adopted by the people of the parish, through an open meeting at Longburton Village Hall on 17th August 2011***







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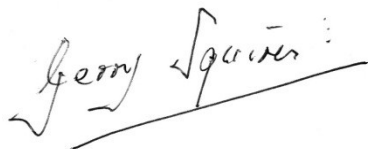
## **Foreword**

Making decisions in accordance with the perceived wishes of the majority of villagers is one of the principle problems facing a Parish Council, made worse in the case of Cam Vale by the fact that it is a group parish, incorporating four distinct and geographically separate communities. Public attendance at Parish Council meetings is sparse, a genuinely representative canvassing of opinion is impractical, and the danger of being misled as to majority desires by a vociferous minority is ever-present.

The solution to this problem is a well-informed and carefully crafted Parish Plan. Thanks to the support and co-operation of villagers in completing comprehensive questionnaires, but above all due to the dedication, enthusiasm and tireless hard work of the volunteer members of the Parish Plan Steering Group, we now see between these covers a professionally presented and truly reliable indication of parishioners' contemporary opinions and priorities, based on a group average of 65% return of all questionnaires distributed.

This document will now serve as a handbook and guide to the Parish Council – and other authorities – for the next five years. The grateful thanks of Councillors goes to all those responsible for its production. Their reward will come in observing the improvements to parish life which I hope their efforts will inspire.

Gerry Squires

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Gerry Squires', with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Chairman  
Cam Vale Group Parish Council



## The Parish

### *A profile of the Cam Vale Parish*

**The Names:** Longburton, Leweston, Lillington, Holnest

Longburton comes from the Old English lang ((long) and burh-tun (fortified farm or farm near a fortification). A number of versions of the village name have been adopted over the centuries. This is hardly surprising in the period before spelling was standardised. Early references show Burton (1244), Buryton (1285), Bourton (1316) and Langebourton (1460).

Lweston is probably a farm belonging to a man called Leofwig, from the Old English tun + a personal name.

Lillington (farm called after a man named Lylla) comes from the Old English -linton + a personal name. However, before 1293 the village belonged to one William de Lillington.

Holnest (copse or wooded hill where holly grows) comes from the Old English holeyn +hurst. References include Holeherst (1185), Hohenherst (1268), Holnest (1316) and Holnhurst (1375).

**Facts and Figures** (Source:2001 Census Parish Profiles):

Parish	Population (Households)	% 0-15 years	% 16-64 years	% 65+ Years	% Pensioner Households	% Couple Households	% Lone Parent Households
Longburton	435 (198)	14	53.3	32.6	43.90	38.90	1.50
Lillington	82 (35)	15.9	64.6	19.5	28.6	45.7	0.0
Holnest	174 (68)	17.8	66.1	16.1	22.10	51.5	0.0
	% Households with no car	% of all people with a limiting long-term illness	% of all people whose health was good	%of all people providing unpaid care	There are no detailed figures for Lweston as there are only 5 households. Population estimates for 2009 (Published in the Dorset Data Book 2010) are:		
Longburton	7.60	18.90	68.70	13.10	Longburton	480 in 215 dwellings	
Lillington	8.60	9.80	82.90	12.20	Lillington	70 in 33 dwellings	
Holnest	5.90	16.70	74.10	6.90	Holnest	230 in 76 dwellings	

### **Amenities**

Longburton has two halls: the Village Hall and the Victoria Temperance Hall. The village has a Parish Church and a Methodist Church, a public house (The Rose and Crown) and Longburton Car Sales, based at the former garage and filling station. The red public phone box remains operational in the centre of the village. Mobile phone signals are generally weak. The shops, bakery, post office and school are long-gone but the main road footpath extension, completed in 2002, makes walking through the village a much safer exercise!

There are parish churches in Lillington (St. Martin of Tours) and Holnest (St. Mary). There is a red phone box at Lillington and a more modern one outside the telephone exchange at Holnest. Longburton and Holnest have a weekday bus service to Sherborne, Yeovil and Dorchester, subsidised by Dorset County Council.

### **Community Activities**

The Longburton Generation Club has been organising events and visits to places of interest for over ten years. Community events are also organised by church members and by members of clubs and groups. In Longburton, these include the Art Group, Garden Club, 'Plodders' walking group, Village Hall Committee, HOPE for Children Knitting Group and Tea and Chat (open to all). The Rose and Crown hosts regular skittles matches and monthly quizzes. Regular community events take place in Lillington and Holnest. News, views and notices of activities are published in the Long Burton & District News and the White Hart Vale Benefice Magazine.



## **Parish Plan Introduction**

The first Parish Plan for the Cam Vale Group was published in 2004 and was based upon a questionnaire completed by the residents of Longburton. It is a requirement that Parish Plans are reviewed on a 5 yearly basis and in September 2009 the Parish Council approached various members of the community and requested that a steering group be set up to review the previous plan and on this occasion to include all four villages of the Cam Vale Group, Holnest, Lillington, Leweston and Longburton.

Volunteers from all communities met in the last months of 2009 and set to work in earnest in 2010 in reviewing the previous plan. As input was required from all residents to ensure a complete plan it was obvious the only way forward was to ask the residents to complete a questionnaire upon which the plan would be based. Open monthly meetings and an open day were held to which residents were invited to discuss the progress of the review, to comment on questions that we thought should be included and to suggest other questions that could also be included.

The questionnaire was compiled and in May 2010 was hand delivered to every household in the Parish for completion. Members of the group called back two weeks later to collect the completed questionnaires. Some 324 questionnaires were delivered and 210 completed were returned (some 65%) which the West Dorset District Council considered was an excellent figure. Given that each questionnaire had 75 questions, many of these with multiple answers, and each questionnaire allowed up to 6 occupiers to record their answers we had a lengthy task in collating all the responses on which to formulate the plan.

Once a draft plan had been drawn up we were then required to submit it to the West Dorset District Council for them to comment and pass the draft plan to other “partners” for them to also peruse and make any suggestions they thought would be constructive. The draft plan was well received and returned with positive comments.

This plan has been developed to include the residents’ aspirations not just for the present but for the future and to ensure that this parish remains a desirable place in which to live.

### ***Acknowledgements:***

Dorset County Council	West Dorset District Council
The Parish Plan Steering Group	Cam Vale Group Parish Council
Longburton Village Hall Committee & Trustees	Dorset Community Action
Mid West Office Equipment	Rose and Crown, Longburton
Leweston School	Richard Robbins - Editor Long Burton Village News



## **Summary of Survey Findings**

The comments and information provided in the Parish questionnaire and at the “Open event” are summarised under the main headings:

Housing and Development

Roads and road safety,

Facilities

Health

Environment/Natural Environment,

Transport and Carbon Management

Leisure sport and Community

Footpaths, Bridleways and Cycle paths.

The detailed data from the questionnaire is available upon request from the Parish Council, this material has been published as a separate document in order that the valuable information is preserved for present and future reference and does not clutter the plan with too much detailed information.

## **Summary of Recommendations**

It is recommended that the following actions are undertaken following the production of this revised Parish Plan for the Cam Vale Group which incorporates the villages of Longburton, Holnest, Leweston and Lillington.

All the recommendations are reproduced in Section 5 of this document, the major issues are highlighted below and are not listed in any order of importance.

Ensure the views of the residents regarding building on the site of the Council yard at Longburton are fully considered.

Investigate the feasibility of the provision of a community shop.

Investigate the provision of single storey dwellings for the elderly/disabled to support the “homes for life” legislation.

Investigate the feasibility/provision of traffic calming measures.

Investigate the feasibility of improving mobile telephone reception.

Investigate the provision of a more regular bus service operating through and within the Parish.

Investigate the feasibility of introducing a self generating power scheme owned by the Parish.

The provision of play areas for young people

Provide maps identifying the footpaths, bridleways and cycle-paths in each village in a prominent central location e.g. by the churches.



## Housing and Development

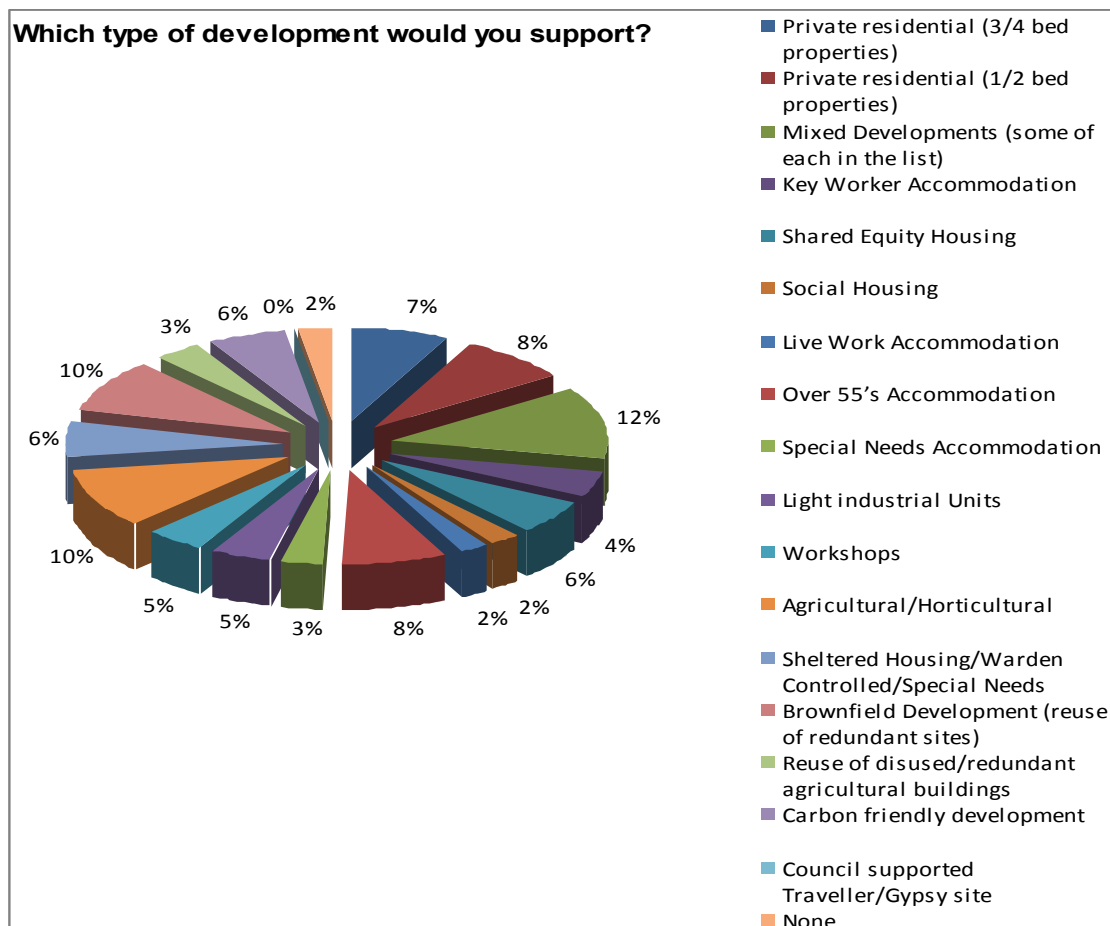
The vast majority of households that returned the questionnaire are permanent residents within the parish (98%) and have lived in the parish from 0-50+ years although the majority fall within 6-25 years residency.

Further development within the parish is not possible at this time due to the removal of the Defined Development Boundary which only allows for Social Housing development. The council yard at Longburton remains an issue and to the question "Which type of development would you support?" there was varying support for all types of development with the exception of a Council supported Traveller/Gypsy site. The chart below shows the full response.

Large support was given to new facilities that should be incorporated into any new large scale development, with a village shop attracting the most votes followed by a play area for children/young people and a Community Centre/Village Hall.

To the question "What age group would you wish to see encouraged by any housing development within the parish?" the majority response was for young families followed by young professional couples but all groups received support of varying degrees.

Considerable support was also shown for single storey dwellings within the parish for the elderly or disabled (attracting over 52% of the return) to enable residents to stay within the parish when circumstances dictate the need for alternative arrangements.



## **Roads and Road Safety**

The majority of residents felt that street parking was not a safety risk in their respective villages and an even greater majority did not consider that the parish needs car parking facilities, although those that did were of the opinion that Longburton was most in need.

Longburton was highlighted as a major “danger spot” on the roads of the parish with Holnest also attracting some concerns along the A352. The pinch point through Longburton has long been of concern along with the lack of pavement on the A352 outside the Rose and Crown public house.

Traffic speed through the parish is a major concern (especially on the A352 through Longburton and again at Holnest) and the vast majority were of the opinion that the Speed Indicator Device (SID) had a positive effect on speeding traffic. Support was given for the parish to purchase its own Speed Indicator Device and also for permanent speed cameras. Very little support was shown for no action.

At present the parish shares a SID with other local parishes which is erected at set times throughout the year by a volunteer resident's group directed by the parish council at two sites along the A352. In addition a partnership enforcement camera is used throughout the year and the latest figures show that between August 2009 and October 2010 this was deployed in the 30mph zone of Longburton on 26 occasions and in the 40mph zone on 12 occasions.

Although most residents felt that the volume of traffic running through the parish has significantly increased over the last 6 years the actual figures show that the flow remains approximately the same at 5,600 (daily mean average traffic, latest available figures) although over the last 26 years the growth of traffic is approximately 56%.

It may well be that the perception of heavier volume of traffic is due to larger vehicles using the roads and at higher speeds. Support was also shown for a size/weight restriction on vehicles passing through the parish at various locations (particularly Longburton).

Other road safety matters i.e. more pavements, pedestrian crossings, dropped kerbs etc. attracted support although no further street lights was the most popular.

The general condition of the roads, pavements verges, street lighting, footpaths/bridleways and signage was considered to be mostly average to good, although many considered the roads to be in a poor condition.



## **Facilities**

Although the returns show that the older age groups were reasonably well catered for the opposite is the case for younger children/adults. This is evident in other parts of the questionnaire and there is a strong feeling towards the provision of play areas. At present “The Mighty Pod” (a mobile recreational vehicle) attends the parish on a regular basis. This is well attended by young people and is presently funded by the parish, donations and a support group. The group, comprising the young people and their parents together with other supporters have held several fund raising events and a substantial amount of money has been raised. The recreational vehicle is not cheap to run but in lieu of a permanent site it is the best option at this time.

Exercise classes were the most popular of the facilities that residents would attend if provided. There is a Pilates group that runs on a weekly basis and is very well attended. If adult education classes were provided the most popular were, Film and Photography, Languages, Computing and Crafts although the majority would like to see these classes within the parish. There was fairly strong support for the Parish/District Councils to be more proactive in attracting arts, activities and events into the community.

Of the activities already in place the most used were, The Church, The Village Hall and The Generation Club (Longburton).

Media and communications problems were widespread with difficulties in most areas especially, mobile phone reception, digital television/radio reception and broadband. The idea of a parish website proved popular.

The top three actions that residents considered would be useful for the parish are, in order of preference, a traffic survey, a renewable energy source and a habitat/wildlife survey.

## **Health**

The parish appears to be very well provided for with very few problems experienced in obtaining appointments for a range of health issues.

There is however some support for a residential/nursing/care home within the parish and even greater support for a regular health drop in/advice centre to be made available in the parish at various locations.

## **Environment**

The survey showed that the majority of residents who answered the questionnaire were retired, with the next largest group being in full time employment followed by the self employed.

As to the type of employment residents would like to see in the parish small business opportunities rated highly followed by horticultural and agricultural opportunities.

## **Natural Environment**

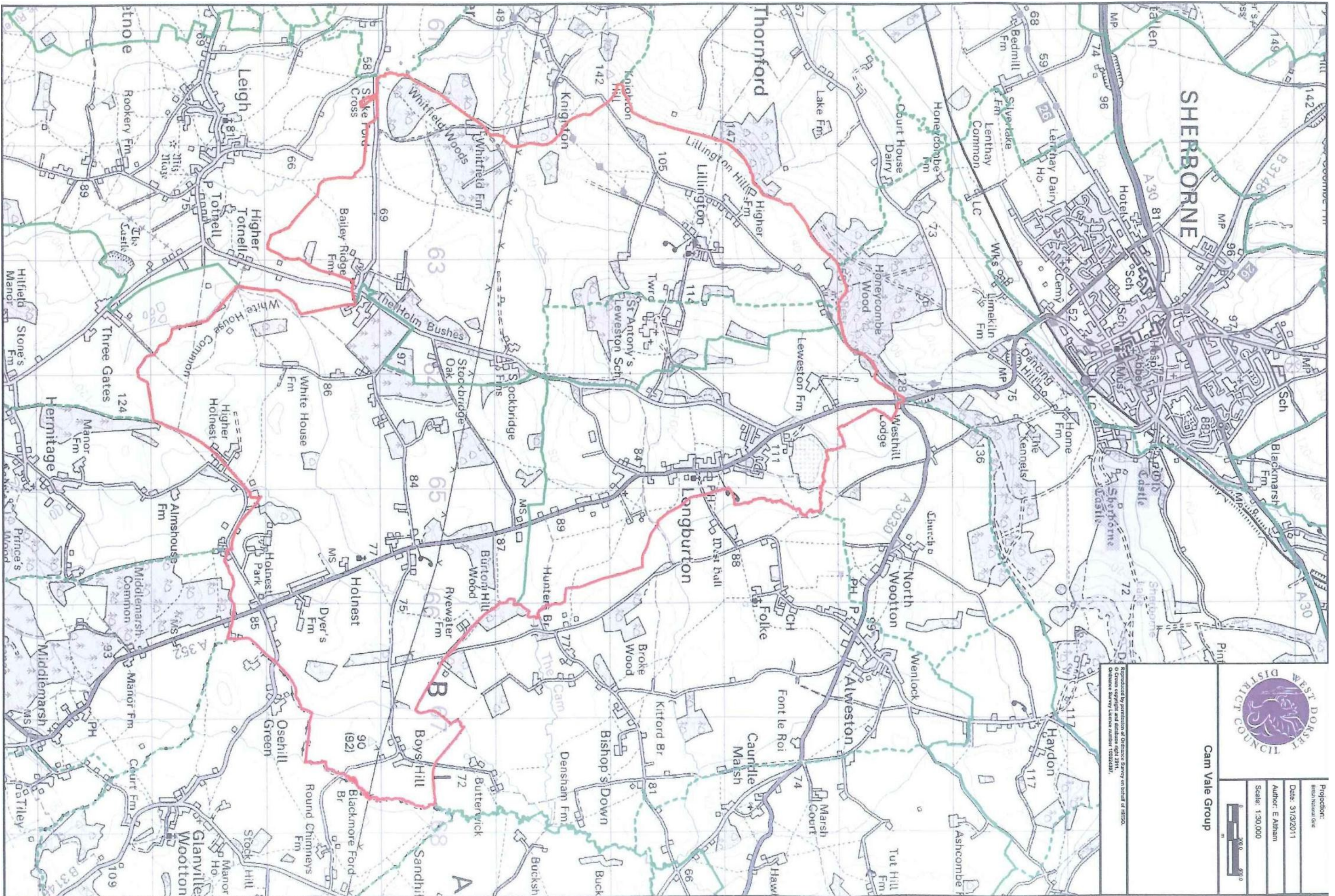
Recycling was the most important issue considered that would help and enhance the local environment, with a parish recycling point having the most support. Kerbside recycling was also of concern due, presumably, to the fact that at the moment there is no provision for the recycling of plastic and other products.

All areas of action that could be taken to improve the local environment received good support the most popular of these being repair and maintenance of old dry stone walls, creating a sustainable habitat for native species, the planting of new, and the preservation of old, orchards and the planting of bulbs along the roadside verges within the respective villages.

There was little indication that residents would be prepared to assist in protecting wildlife habitats, surveying trees and maintaining footpaths/bridleways and it may be up to individual groups to be set up. Longburton does have a footpath group who regularly walk the paths and have been instrumental in keeping them open and repaired.



**Cam Vale Parish Map**





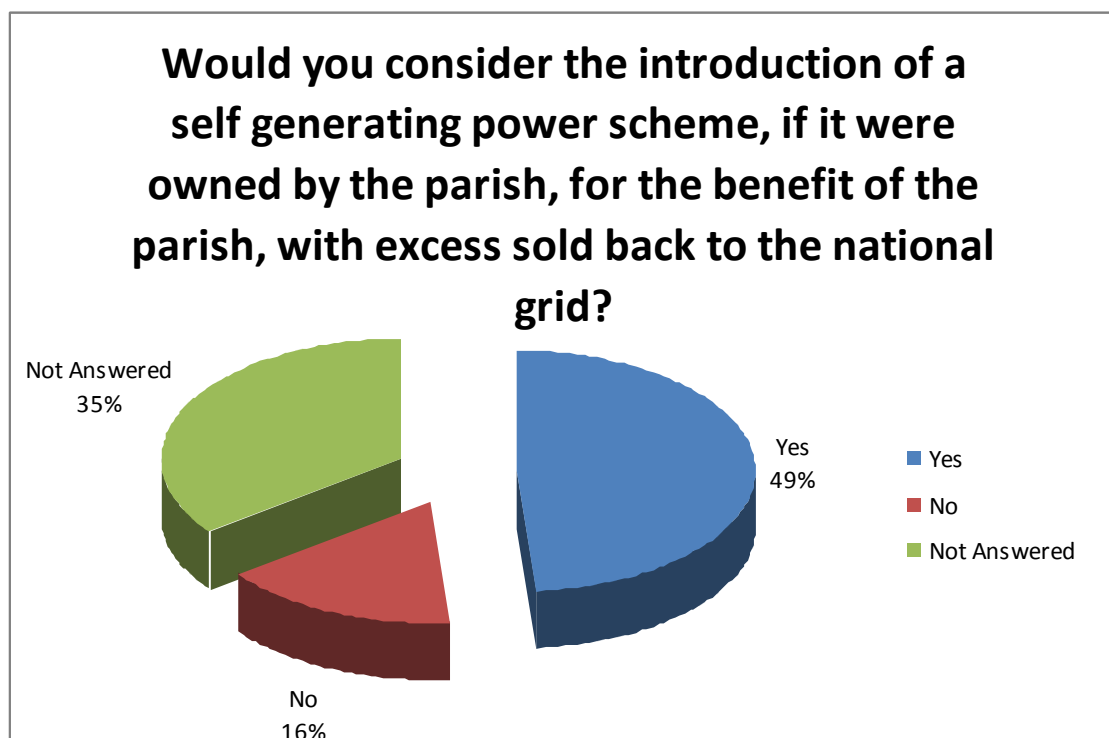
## **Transport and Carbon Management**

The majority of residents that have to travel to their place of employment travel less than 10 miles with only approx 22% travelling in excess of 20 miles.

There was a very strong feeling that the public transport system in and out of Sherborne, Yeovil and Dorchester should be improved. An improved bus system could result in less private vehicles using the roads and in turn less pollution. At present only approx 9% of those that travel use the public buses. The main mode of transport is by private car (Approximately 75%).

Some of those that presently travel by car were interested in a car share scheme and even more would be prepared to take part in a voluntary transport service. This would need to be arranged by local groups and may need, in certain circumstances, individuals having to undergo a Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) check. Many residents indicated that they were prepared to do this.

One item that attracted strong support was the introduction of a self generating power scheme, owned by the parish, for the benefit of the parish with any excess being sold back to the national grid, as shown in the graph below.



## **Leisure Sport and Community**

The number of people willing to assist in leisure activities for young people was small although this is not surprising given that many of the residents are retired. Any adult willing to assist would be required to undergo a Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) check and a number of people indicated that they would be prepared to do this. The numbers prepared to help with the provision of leisure activities for the elderly was not much more but of the activities, tea and coffee mornings was the most popular. There is an active "Tea and Chat" group in Longburton which meets on a monthly basis and is very well attended.

The majority feel satisfied with the local services they receive with Fire, Police, Ambulance and the Parish Council all receiving strong support.

Although this is a low crime area, many residents were concerned over the possibility of theft and vandalism. Litter/Fly tipping and Dog fouling was considered to be the worst problem. The possibility of obtaining dog mess bins was raised on the previous parish plan. However, after making enquiries, it was discovered that there were no WDDC funds to support such an undertaking compounded by the problem that if bins were provided who would empty them? The problem of dog fouling has not gone away but appears to have improved, with the majority of owners clearing up after their animals. West Dorset District Council have adopted the Dogs Fouling Land Act 1996 which allows for dog wardens to issue fixed penalty tickets to any person responsible for a dog that fouls and does not clean up any mess left by the dog in a public place. Owners can be prosecuted in the Magistrates Court where a fine of up to £1000.00 can be imposed.

Longburton has a "Homewatch" system in place which advises residents of matters of concern as advised by the Police from time to time. This is well organised and information slips are delivered to residents by volunteers but surprisingly less than half the residents were aware of who their coordinator was.

If mobile services were provided a Post Office was the most popular with a grocer and fishmonger also receiving some support. Strong support was shown for a community shop and some residents also indicated that they would be prepared to help in that venture.

The bi-monthly and Annual General Meetings of the parish council were not attended by the majority of residents although, of those that responded, the majority felt that the parish council publicises its decisions and activities reasonably or very well. Although a considerable number of residents did not feel involved in the community a greater number felt that they had the opportunity to get involved and have a voice but chose not to.



## **Footpaths Bridleways and Cycle paths**

In relation to footpaths and bridleways, many residents were aware of their locations although some support was shown for maps of the rights of way to be displayed in central positions i.e. adjacent to the church, for the information of visitors and new residents. Many felt that these rights of way should be more clearly marked and properly maintained.

Support was also shown for the footpath in Longburton to be extended along the A352 to the junction with the A3030 where it would join up with the existing footpath from there into Sherborne. At present anyone attempting to walk along that stretch of road is offered no protection from the traffic. If provided this could also be used for a cycle path to allow safer travel.

Pavement and verge clearance, although of concern to some, was not considered to be a major problem.





## Pictures from around the Parish



*Holnest*



*Leweston*



***Lillington***



***Longburton***



## Cam Vale Parish Plan Review Action Plan August 2011

No.	Topic	Actions	Partners	Lead Responsibilities	Timescale	Reference From Section	Priority	% Complete
1	<b>Housing and Development</b>	Reinstatement or equivalent of the Defined Development Boundary to permit development	Parish Council, WDDC & DCC	District Councillor, working together with the parish council	As soon as possible, due to the current planning and development strategy review	Section 1	High	
2		Controlled, mixed, developments with a variety of property types, including affordable housing	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Housing Associations, Potential Housing Developers	District Councillor, working together with the parish council	As required	Section 1	Medium	
3		Need for dedicated Agricultural and Horticultural dwellings	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Housing Associations, Potential Housing Developers, Local Landowners, Devon, Dorset & Somerset Community Land Trust	District Councillor, working together with the parish council	To be included as part of any future development	Section 1	Medium	

4		Requirement for dedicated over 55's accommodation	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Housing Associations, Potential Housing Developers, Devon, Dorset & Somerset Community Land Trust	District Councillor, working together with the parish council	As required	Section 1	Medium	
5		Need for re-development of Brownfield sites, to meet the needs above	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Housing Associations, Potential Housing Developers, Landowners, Devon, Dorset & Somerset Community Land Trust	District Councillor, working together with the parish council and Landowner	To be the initial primary focus for potential development sites within the parish	Section 1	High	
6		Requirement for all development to be carbon friendly, whilst in keeping with the local environment and architecture	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Housing Associations, Potential Housing Developers, Landowners, Carbon Trust and assisted funding bodies, Devon, Dorset & Somerset Community Land Trust	District Councillor, working together with the parish council, Developer and Carbon Trust	To be the considered as part of any future development propositions within the parish	Section 1	High	

<b>7</b>	<b>Roads and Road Safety</b>	Work with the Highways department to find ways of proactively reducing traffic speed along the A352, in addition to the Speeding Indicator Device (SID)	DCC, Parish Council, Highways Agency, Dorset Police, Dorset Camera Partnership, District Councillor, Local MP.	Parish Council progressing solutions with Partners	As soon as possible	Section 2	High	
<b>8</b>		Purchase a Speed Indicator Device for the Parish	Parish Council, DCC	Parish Council	As soon as possible	Section 2	High	
<b>9</b>		Explore the possibility of a Size and Weight restriction along the A352 through the parish	DCC, Parish Council, Highways Agency, Dorset Police, District Councillor, Local MP.	Parish Council progressing solutions with Partners	As soon as possible	Section 2	High	
<b>10</b>	<b>Facilities</b>	Progress a solution to the poor mobile phone coverage across the parish	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Mobile Phone Companies, District Councillor, Local MP	Parish Council and Mobile Phone Providers	As soon as practical	Section 3	High	

<b>11</b>		Explore the possibility of setting up a parish Website	Parish Council, District Council, District Councillor, Dorset Community Action	Parish Council	As soon as possible	Section 3	Low	
<b>12</b>		The Parish and District Council, to deliver arts, activities and events into and with the local communities	Parish Council, District Council, District Councillor, Local MP, Arts Link, Dorset Community Action	District Councillor	As required	Section 3	Low	
<b>13</b>		Support the provision of facilities and equipment to deliver courses and learning within the parish	Parish Council, Village Hall Committees, DCC, Dorset Community Action, potential course leaders including volunteers	Parish Council	As soon as possible	Section 3	Medium	



<b>14</b>		Retention of the Mighty POD and mobile libraries within the parish	Parish Council, District Council, DCC, District Councillor, Local MP, Arts Link, Dorset Community Action	District Councillor	As soon as possible	Section 3	High	
<b>15</b>	<b>Health</b>	Investigate the possibility of a mobile health drop in centre on a regular basis, at locations within the parish	Parish Council, Dorset Health Authority, District Councillor, Local MP, Dorset Community Action	Parish Council	As soon as practical	Section 4	Medium	
<b>16</b>		Explore the possibility of the provision of a residential/ nursing home facility within the parish	Parish Council, Dorset Health Authority, District Councillor, Local MP, Dorset Community Action, Developers	District Councillor	As soon as practical	Section 1 and 4	Low	

17	<b>Environment/Natural Environment</b>	To actively promote the development of small businesses, horticultural and agricultural opportunities and establishing the infrastructure necessary to support their sustainability	Parish Council, DCC, WDDC, District Councillor, Local MP, federation of small businesses Dorset (FSB), Local employers, Technology providers (e.g. broadband)	Parish Council	As soon as possible	Section 5	Medium	
18		To develop a detailed environment plan to include practical activities to enhance the environment in which we live. (Groups of local supporters could be formed to progress this on the Parish Council's behalf)	Parish Council, Dorset Wildlife Trust, DCC, Local volunteers	Parish Council supported by volunteer groups	As soon as possible	Section 5	Medium	

19		Provision of a parish recycling point for items not collected through existing doorstep recycling e.g. plastics	Parish Council, DCC, WDDC, District Councillor, Local MP	District Councillor	As soon as practical	Section 9	High	
20	<b>Transport and Carbon Management</b>	Improve bus services to and from Sherborne, to reduce the need to drive	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Nordcat, South West Coaches (Sherborne to Yeovil only)	Parish Council supported by bus operators	As soon as possible	Section 6	Medium	
21		Explore and progress the introduction of a self generating power scheme, that is owned by the parish, for the benefit of the parish, with the excess sold back to the national grid	Parish Council, DCC, WDDC, District Councillor, Local MP, Utility providers, Carbon Trust, Sherborne Environment Forum (led by Sherborne Area Partnership), Sherborne Environment Forum	Local Councillor & MP	As soon as possible	Section 6	Medium	

<b>22</b>	<b>Leisure, Sport and Community</b>	Progress the provision of a Children's play area within Longburton and where appropriate, other villages in the parish	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Potential Housing Developers, Local Landowners	Parish Council	As soon as possible	Section 7	High	
<b>23</b>		To manage the risk of theft and vandalism and address the problems of Litter/Fly tipping and Dog fouling	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Potential Housing Developers, Local Landowners, 'PACT' Partners & Communities Together	Parish Council	As soon as possible	Section 7	Medium	
<b>24</b>		To establish a group to fully explore the feasibility, set up and running costs of setting up a community shop and its location	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Potential Housing Developers, Local Landowners, Dorset Community Action, The Plunkett Foundation	Working Group (Volunteers) on behalf of the parish Council	As soon as possible	Section 7	High	



<b>25</b>		Promote the homewatch scheme and provide contact details of the area coordinators regularly in the parish magazine	Parish Council, Homewatch Volunteers	Homewatch Coordinator	As soon as possible	Section 7	Medium	
<b>26</b>	<b>Footpaths, Bridleways and Cycle paths</b>	Investigate the possibility of a dedicated cycle path between Longburton and Sherborne	Parish Council, DCC, WDDC, Local Landowners	Parish Council	As soon as practical	Section 8	Low	
<b>27</b>		Provide maps identifying the footpaths, bridleways and cycle paths in each village in a prominent central location e.g. By the Church	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC	Parish Council	As soon as possible	Section 8	Medium	

<b>28</b>		Investigate the possibility of extending the footpath from Longburton to the A3030, to meet up with the existing footpath from there to Sherborne	Parish Council, WDDC, DCC, Local Councillor, Local MP	Local Councillor & MP	As soon as possible	Section 8	Medium	
<b>29</b>	<b>General</b>	Assign a lead Parish Councillor to own and regularly report progress against each of the actions identified from the questionnaire	Parish Councillors and all partners identified above	Nominated Parish Councillor	Ongoing, Quarterly	All sections	Very high	

